

# Mississippi Palladium

THOMAS A. FALCONER, PUBLISHER.

STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION WILL PERPETUATE THE UNION.

HENRY STITH, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

VOLUME 1.

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## TERMS OF THE PALLADIUM.

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## Announcing Candidates.

For State or District offices, \$10 in the Legislature, \$5 in the County Offices.

THE Mississippi Palladium Office is in the same room recently occupied by the Gazette on the North-west corner of the public square.

## From the Southern Literary Gazette.

TO BETTIE.

BY JACOB THOMPSON.

Under the grey willow stands  
I see affection's language  
In every look, yet still to me  
All unexpressed, yet still to me  
Like to the murmuring of the sea,  
Which daily greets the wandering dove.

The dove! Dost thou remember still  
When children, struggling hand in hand,  
We glided onward with the mill,  
And thou wast smiling on the mill,  
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## From the Sumter Democrat.

LIVINGSTON, (Ala.) May 7th, '51.

Mr. Editor:

I have observed with great satisfaction because of the good feeling which it implies—the unanimous concurrence of the Democratic Press of the District in presenting my name for election to Congress. This announcement was made in every instance with a knowledge of my wish to retire from office, but nevertheless with my assent. The change of circumstances in the last few weeks, in my opinion, relieves me from the obligation thus assumed and justifies me in declining the honor which has been so generously proffered.

Being personally averse to a continuance in Congress, nothing less could induce me to become a candidate, than the conviction that some important political result depended upon my success. Some weeks since, it was believed, that the district would be contested by our political adversaries, and into such a contest, I should have entered with zeal and energy. Now, it is apparent, that no such contest would enter into competition with me, and that if my opposition were offered, (which is not probable,) it would come from some aspirant in our own ranks. There is then obvious to me no party necessity requiring me to become a candidate; no triumph of party could be achieved, because our adversaries admit our irresistible strength and disband their organization before us. Nor do I see in the present condition of popular opinion on the subject of slavery, and the aggressions of the Federal Government upon the rights of the South, that my re-election to Congress would be productive of any public benefit. All the recent indications of Northern sentiment—the election of Fish, Wade and Sumner, to the Senate; the riots of the mob in opposition to the fugitive slave law; the resolutions of Northern Legislatures and the anathemas of Northern churches—demonstrate a union of the masses of the North in hostility to slavery; whilst the South is divided, and so weakened by division, that the time is apparently nigh when she will be incapable of self-preservation, in or out of the Union. I have always maintained that prior to the adoption of the late miscalled compromise, the South united, could have permanently controlled the action of the Federal Government in reference to slavery. The defeat of the Wilmot Proviso to which the North clung with passionate tenacity, is due exclusively to the united opposition of the South. The same union would have defeated the miscalled compromise, and obtained the adoption of the Missouri line across our Mexican acquisitions, with a distinct recognition of the right of slaveholders to that portion of the territory south of the line.

The passage of the measures of the last Congress is the handwriting on the wall announcing the extinction of slavery, or the ultimate destruction of the Union; and in opposing them, I claim to have been acting not less by a regard to Southern rights, than by patriotic devotion to the Union, which it was my anxious desire to uphold in its pristine purity, and to perpetuate to the last generation of men. So much for the past action of Congress; and with the record of that Congress before us, and the responses of the Northern people since made, and now being made, can any man however sanguine or confiding, or slavish, expect the Federal Government to change its policy towards the South? If it were now to pause and leave its own unfinished work of emancipation and destruction to the certain consummation of time, what human agency could avert our terrible destiny?

But there will be no pause; agitation will go on; aggression will go on; and the object of the South in the two houses of Congress, no longer authorized to proclaim resistance, will retain the poor privilege of recording in sullen shame their ineffectual votes. In every department of the Federal Government the power of the North is supreme. It is indeed the government of the North controlled and directed by men utterly hostile to the antagonistic section. During the agitation on the subject of the stamp act our ancestors refused a representation in the British Parliament, because a minority representation would have been powerless to resist oppression, and their participation would have been claimed as a sanction to oppressive legislation. Such is now the effect of our participation in the Federal Government.

Sincerely entreating these views of our Federal relations, and of the past and future action of Congress, my friends and former constituents will, I am assured, appreciate the motives which constrain me to decline the pursuit of a position, in which I could neither serve them, nor attain the rightful ends of an honorable ambition.

In conclusion, I must do justice to my own feelings, by expressing my profound gratitude to the people of this district, for their generous confidence and support; in all the fiery trials of political strife. I have the consolation of knowing that since my first entrance into public life, my majorities after every successive election have increased; that despite the open efforts of organized opposition, and the secret arts of misrepresentation and calumny, the people have triumphantly sustained me.

Very respectfully,  
T. A. FALCONER.

To the Editors of the Sumter Democrat.

## From the Memphis Appeal.

Hon. Jacob Thompson.

We publish in another column the proceedings of the Southern Rights Convention held at Pontotoc, Miss., on Monday last, from which it will be seen that Hon. Jacob Thompson has been nominated, by acclamation, for re-election to Congress. This intelligence will be received with rejoicing by the friends of State Rights throughout his District, and we indulge the hope that Mr. Thompson will not feel himself at liberty to decline the nomination. His country has peculiar claims upon him at the present time, and now, more than ever before, are his faithful services and long experience required in the councils of the nation.

He has for ten years past been a Representative in Congress from the State of Mississippi, and by his commanding talents, his unimpeachable integrity and unwavering devotion to Democratic principles and to the constitutional rights of the South, has won a reputation co-extensive with the confederates of the common foe, for every sincere democrat. We shall hail his election, of which we have not a doubt, with unalloyed gratification as a glorious triumph of the cause of Southern Rights, and as cheering evidence that the people of his gallant State will remain true to those who have been true to her through sunshine and through storm. When the South, discarding her brave and true and gallant defenders, shall take to her bosom the confederates of the common foe, there will be wanting no further step to complete our degradation as a people. The election of Mr. Thompson will, therefore, be a triumph over our enemies—a triumph of the South, and a triumph of the Constitution over the vandal hand which in the name of the Union would sacrifice to the spirit of Northern fanaticism its sacred guarantees.

From the Memphis Express.

Memphis and Charleston Rail Road.

We have just read an excellent and able article upon this subject from the pen of our neighbor of the Enquirer. It really appears to us that no reflecting man can contemplate the whole of this subject, and then conclude that it is, in the least, advisable to run this road by LaGrange. If the interest of the stockholders—if the public interest, positively indicate the southern route, there can be, in reality, no immovable obstacle or impediment in the way. The stockholders, rather than hazard their own interest and the public good, which, in truth, we hold to be identical, should decidedly prefer to do nothing—better do nothing than to do wrong. Let them assume this position and all personal and selfish considerations will soon vanish—will soon yield to the claims of public justice.

It is strange that a charter, forfeited by a non-user—deed to all intents and purposes, should now rise with sufficient life and strength, as to defeat the public good, in this great enterprise.

Mississippi is so thoroughly satisfied that the public good demands that the road should take the southern route, that she will not yield a particle of her demands, till facts, and but facts, shall determine that her convictions are erroneous. If the road should take the southern route, then it should not take the other; and to force it thence, would be suicidal; and the stockholders are certainly not frenzied enough to run to such an extremity, when no public necessity demands it.

We think that we have seen enough of the movements of Governor Jones, in this matter, to satisfy us, that it has now become the duty of the stockholders to take this matter into their own hands.

If contracts or contingencies exist in connexion with the Memphis and LaGrange road, which must be complied with, in the event the road to Charleston is prosecuted, and if, in rendering this compliance, the public good is injured—the stock impaired, then it is better to stop just where we are.

The city of Memphis, involved in the sum of \$500,000 in this enterprise, should refuse all action in it, till her true interest and nothing less, shall be clearly secured. To hazard the solvency of the city, to gratify Gov. Jones or to promote the personal interests of any set of men, is perfectly out of the question.

As the facts are now understood and believed to exist, the whole enterprise is now a nullity unless the southern route is adopted.

KNOWLEDGE.

"One fountain there is," says Miss Bremer, "whose deep vein has only just begun to throw up its silver drops among mankind—a fountain which will ally the thirst of millions, and will give to those who drink from it peace and joy. It is knowledge, the fountain of intellectual cultivation, which gives health to mankind, makes clear his vision, brings joy to his life, and breathes over his soul's destiny a deep repose.—Go and drink therefrom, thou whom fortune has not favored, and thou wilt soon feel thyself rich! Thou mayest go forth into the world and find thyself everywhere; but thou canst cultivate thyself in thine own little chamber; thy friends are ever around thee, and carry on wise conversations with thee—nature, antiquity, heaven, are accessible to thee."

Let it be borne in mind, that no brilliancy of genius, no tact or talent in business, and no amount of success will compensate for duplicity, shuffling and trickery.

## The Cheap Postage Law.

An Act to reduce and modify the rate of postage in the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from the thirtieth day of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, in lieu of the rates of postage now established by law there shall be charged the following rates, to wit: For every single letter in manuscript, or paper of any kind upon which information shall be asked for, or communicated in writing, or by marks or signs, conveyed in the mail, for any distance between places within the United States not exceeding three thousand miles, when the postage upon such letter shall have been prepaid three cents, and five cents when the postage thereon shall not have been prepaid; and for any distance exceeding three thousand miles double those rates for every such single letter or paper which conveyed wholly or in part by sea and to or from a foreign country, for any distance over twenty-five hundred miles, twenty cents, and for any distance under twenty-five hundred miles, ten cents, (excepting, however, all cases where such postage have been or shall be adjusted at different rates by postal treaty or convention, already concluded or hereafter to be made); and for a double letter, there shall be charged double the rates above specified; and for a treble letter, treble those rates; and every letter or parcel not exceeding half an ounce in weight, shall be deemed a single letter, and every additional weight of half an ounce, or additional weight of less than half an ounce shall be charged with an additional single postage. And all drop letters, or letters placed in any post office, not for transmission, but for delivery only, shall be charged with postage at the rate of one cent for every letter which shall hereafter be advertised as remaining over or uncollected for in any post office, shall be charged with one cent in addition to the regular postage, both to be accounted for as other postages now are.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That all newspapers not exceeding three ounces in weight, sent from the office of publication to actual and bona fide subscribers shall be charged with postage as follows, to wit: All newspapers published weekly only, shall circulate in the mail free of postage, provided they are not exceeding five hundred copies, and that the postage on the regular number of newspapers published weekly, for any distance not exceeding fifty miles out of the county where published, shall be five cents per quarter and for any distance not exceeding three hundred miles ten cents per quarter; for any distance exceeding one thousand miles and not exceeding two thousand miles, twenty-five cents per quarter; and for any distance exceeding four thousand miles, thirty cents per quarter; and all newspapers published monthly, and all newspapers published quarterly, shall be charged with postage as follows: for any distance exceeding five hundred miles and not exceeding one thousand five hundred miles, double those rates; for any distance exceeding one thousand five hundred miles and not exceeding two thousand five hundred miles, treble those rates; for any distance exceeding two thousand five hundred miles and not exceeding three thousand five hundred miles, four times those rates; for any distance exceeding three thousand five hundred miles, five times those rates. Subscribers to all periodicals shall be required to pay one quarter's postage in advance, in all such cases the postage shall be one-half the foregoing rates. Bound books, and parcels of printed matter not weighing over thirty-two ounces, shall be deemed mailable matter within the provisions of this section. And the postage on all printed matter other than newspapers and periodicals published at intervals, not exceeding three months, and sent from the office of publication to actual and bona fide subscribers, to be prepaid; and in ascertaining the weight of newspapers for the purpose of determining the amount of postage chargeable thereon, they shall be weighed when in a dry state. And whenever any printed matter on which the postage is required by this section to be prepaid shall, through the inattention of postmasters, or otherwise, be sent without prepayment, the same shall be charged with double the amount of postage which would have been chargeable thereon if the postage had been prepaid; but nothing in this act contained shall subject to postage any matter which is exempted from the payment of postage by any existing law. And the Postmaster General, shall be and he is hereby authorized to reduce or enlarge, from time to time, the rates of postage upon all letters and other mailable matter conveyed between the United States and any foreign country, for the purpose of making any better postal arrangements with other governments, or counteracting any adverse measures effecting our postal intercourse with foreign countries; and postmasters at the office of delivery are hereby authorized, and it shall be their duty, to remove wrappers and envelopes from all printed matter and pamphlets not charged with letter postage, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is upon or connected with any such

## printed matter or in such package any matter or thing which would authorize or require the charge of a higher rate of postage thereon.

And all publishers of pamphlets, periodicals, magazines, and newspapers which shall not exceed sixteen ounces in weight, shall be allowed to interchange their publications reciprocally free of postage; provided, That such an interchange shall be confined to a single copy of each publication: And provided also, That the bills for subscriptions thereto without any additional charge for postage; And provided further, That in all cases where newspapers shall not contain over three hundred square inches, they may be transmitted through the mails by the publishers to bona fide subscribers at one-fourth the rates fixed by this act.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to provide and furnish to all deputy postmasters, and to all other persons applying and paying therefor, suitable postage stamps of the denominations of five cents, and of such other denominations as he may think expedient to facilitate the prepayment of the postage provided for in this act, and any person who shall forge or counterfeit any postage stamp provided or furnished under the provisions of this or any former act, whether the same are impressed or printed on or attached to envelopes or not, or any dye, plate, or engraving therefor, or shall make or print, or knowingly use or sell, or have in his possession, with intent to use or sell, any such false, forged, or counterfeited die, plate, engraving or postage stamp, or who shall make or print, or authorize or procure to be made or printed, any postage stamps of the kind provided and furnished by the Postmaster General as aforesaid, without the special authority and direction of the Post Office Department, or who, after such postage stamps have been printed, shall, with intent to defraud the revenues of the Post Office Department, deliver any postage stamps to any person or persons other than such as shall be authorized to receive the same by an instrument of writing duly executed under the hand of the Postmaster General, and the seal of the Post Office Department, shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of felony, and be punished by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and the expenses of procuring and providing all such postage stamps and letter envelopes, as are provided for or authorized by this act, shall be paid, after being adjusted by the auditor of the Post Office Department, or the certificate of the Postmaster General out of any money in the treasury, arising from the Post Office Department.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That it shall be the duty of every postmaster to cause to be defaced, in such manner as the Postmaster General shall direct, all postage stamps attached to letters deposited in his office for delivery, or to be sent by mail; and if any postmaster sending letters in the mail with postage stamps attached, shall omit to deface the same, it shall be the duty of the postmaster to whose office such letters shall be sent for delivery, to deface the stamps and report the delinquent postmaster to the Postmaster General. And if any person shall use, or attempt to use, in prepayment of postage, any postage stamp which shall have been before used for like purposes, such persons shall be subject to a penalty of fifty dollars for each offence, to be recovered in the manner of the United States, in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That lists of letters remaining uncollected for in any post office in any city, town, or village, where a newspaper shall be printed, shall hereafter be published once only in the newspapers which being issued weekly or oftener, shall have the largest circulation within the range of delivery of said office, to be decided by the Postmaster General, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by him, at such office, at such time, and under such regulations as the Postmaster General shall prescribe; and at a charge of one cent for each letter advertised. And the postmaster at such office is hereby directed to post in a conspicuous place in his office a copy of such list, on the day or day after the publication thereof; and if the publisher of any such newspaper shall refuse to publish the list of letters as provided in this section, the postmaster may designate some other paper for such purpose. Such list of letters shall be published once in every six weeks, and as much oftener, not exceeding once a week, as the Postmaster General may specially direct. Provided, That the Postmaster General may, in his discretion, direct the publication of German and other foreign letters in any newspaper printed in the German or any other foreign language, which publication shall be in the lieu of or in addition to the publication of the list of such letters in the manner first in this section provided, as the Postmaster General shall direct.

Sec. 6. And be it further enacted, That if any postmaster whose commissions may be reduced below the amount allowed at his office for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and whose labors may be increased, the Postmaster General shall be authorized, in his discretion, to allow such additional commissions as he may deem just and proper. Provided, That the whole amount of commissions allowed such postmaster during the fiscal year shall not exceed by more than twenty per cent, the amount of commissions at such office for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, eighteen hundred and fifty-one.

Sec. 7. And be it further enacted, That no post office now in existence shall be discontinued, nor shall the service on any mail route in any of the States or territories be discontinued or diminished, in consequence of any diminution of the revenues that may result from this act; and it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to establish new

## post offices, and place the mail service on any new mail routes established, or that may hereafter be established, in the same manner as though this act had not passed.

And provided further, That the compensation of no postmaster shall be diminished in consequence of the passage of this act.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That there shall be paid to the Post Office Department, in further payment and compensation for the mail service performed for the two Houses of Congress and the other departments and offices of the government in the transportation of free matter, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars per year, which shall be paid quarterly, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated; and the moneys appropriated to the Post Office Department by the twelfth section of the act "to establish certain post routes and for other purposes," approved March third, eighteen hundred and forty-seven, and remaining undrawn in the treasury, shall continue subject to the requisition of the Postmaster General, for the service of the Post Office Department, notwithstanding the same may have remained so undrawn for more than two years after it became subject to such requisition.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars, to supply any deficiency that may arise in the Post Office Department.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That it shall be in the power of the Postmaster General at all post offices where the postmasters are appointed by the President of the United States, to establish post routes within the cities or towns, to provide for conveying letters to the post office, by establishing suitable and convenient places of deposit, and by employing carriers to receive and deposit them in the post office; and at all such offices it shall be in his power to cause letters to be delivered by suitable carriers, to be appointed by him for that purpose, for which not exceeding one or two cents shall be charged, to be paid by the person receiving or sending the same; and all sums so received shall be paid into the Post Office Department. Provided, That a amount of compensation allowed to the Postmaster General to carry shall in no case exceed the amount paid into the treasury, by each town or city, under the provisions of this section.

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That from and after the passage of this act it shall be lawful to coin, at the mint of the United States and its branches, a piece of the denomination and legal value of three cents, or three-fourths of a dollar, to be composed of three-fourths silver and one-fourth copper, and to weigh twelve grains and three-eighths of a grain; and the said coin shall bear such devices